



MONTANA STATE HOSPITAL POLICY AND PROCEDURE

NON-STANDARD TREATMENT INTERVENTIONS

Effective Date: November 30, 2005

Policy #: TX-25

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- I. PURPOSE:** To ensure appropriate review and oversight of non-standard treatment interventions proposed by clinical staff at Montana State Hospital.
- II. POLICY:** Hospital staff are encouraged to be creative and resourceful in designing treatment interventions for individual patients, particularly those that are treatment refractory or who have not had positive responses to conventional interventions. Treatment provided by all practitioners must be consistent with generally accepted standards of care. All interventions must have a potential benefit that is greater than the potential risks. Consensus must be reached among members of the patient's treatment team and clinical supervisors and hospital administration that any non-standard or unusual treatment approach is likely to result in successful attainment of treatment objectives. Staff members with questions or concerns about a treatment intervention used with a patient are urged to discuss it with the treating professional and appropriate treatment team and to inform their supervisor, the Medical Director, or the Hospital Administrator.

III. DEFINITIONS:

Non-Standard Treatment Intervention – A therapeutic intervention or approach that is not commonly used, but for which in a particular circumstance there is a sound clinical reason to attempt.

IV. RESPONSIBILITIES:

All staff have an obligation to support therapeutic interventions prescribed by licensed clinical professionals and to appropriately raise questions and address concerns about the efficacy and propriety of any treatments provided to patients, particularly any that appear to be unsound.

Licensed clinical professionals have a responsibility to explain their rationale for any treatment intervention provided to a patient and must be able to address reasonable questions or concerns from others about any non-standard interventions attempted.

Supervisory and management staff have a responsibility to ensure that any treatment provided to a patient is based on sound clinical judgment and may prohibit the use of any treatment intervention of questionable efficacy.

V. PROCEDURE:

Staff members having concerns that a particular treatment intervention appears non-standard or unsound are expected to raise the issue with the licensed prescriber and/or

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Any treatment that is considered experimental or part of a research project must meet all requirements of 53-21-147, M.C.A.

When time prevents a review before the intervention occurs, a post-event review may be initiated to evaluate clinical appropriateness and lessons learned.

VII. COLLABORATED WITH: Medical Staff
Director of Nursing
Director of Social Work
Director of Psychology
Director of Quality Improvement
Team Leaders

IX. DISTRIBUTION: All hospital policy manuals

XI. FOLLOW-UP RESPONSIBILITY: Medical Director

XII. ATTACHMENTS: None

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Thomas Gray Date
Medical Director